Telephone Facility at Local Call Rates

†3152. SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI :
SHRI MOTILAL VORA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to provide the telephone facility at local call rates throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would provide such facility on mobile phones also; and

(d) if so, by when the said facility would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (d) While the Government is working towards One India Call Rate, the proposed measure is at initial stage. No time frame has been fixed for the same.

Broad Band Policy

3153. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present Broad Band Policy of Government;

(b) whether any progress has been made in penetration of broad band, internet and personal computer in the country as a result of the new Broad Band Policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether it is fact that India still lags very much behind countries like China in penetration of broad band, internet and personal computers; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken in this regard including comparative figures of India and China in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.